CANADIAN
MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 20, No. 17 TORONTO 2, CANADA August 25th, 1928

THE "TALK" OF THE INDUSTRY!

When the Lion roars the World listens! M-G-M takes over Cosmopolitan Studio, N. Y., for sound—M-G-M Sound Studio, largest in world, completed in California—"White Shadows in the South Seas" in sound opens at $2 at Astor on Broadway and Grauman's Chinese Theatre, Los Angeles, both absolute sell-outs—"Trial of Mary Dugan" is first M-G-M complete dialogue film—M-G-M gets amazing stage talent for short sound numbers—Hal Roach studios sound equipped—Milt Gross' "Nize Baby" with talking sequences—M-G-M Movietone News announced—majority of M-G-M features and shorts to be synchronized.

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

WHAT'S ALL THE SHOOTING FOR?

—that for calamity howlers

LET'S GET DOWN TO BRASS TACKS

THERE'S TOO MUCH HOOEY in this business today. A lot of picture people who spend more time eating lunch than tending to business are giving out half-cocked statements on what's happening in this business. *They don't know!*

THE only trouble is that some exhibitors are puzzled by such hot air. They are worried by this *schmoos.* Naturally they turn to the one organization *which has both feet solidly on the ground!*

HERE'S THE LOW-DOWN

RECEIPTS: M-G-M leads the box-office for 1927-28. This statement is the result of a percentage house nation-wide check-up.

NEW SEASON: The greatest M-G-M line-up of all. Starting with William Haines in "Excess Baggage", "Our Dancing Daughters", Lon Chaney in "While The City Sleeps", all successes.

STARS: Not mere names, not mere "identifying descriptions": Chaney, Gilbert, Haines, Davies, Novarro, Shearer, Gish, Dane, Arthur, Cody, Pringle, Joan Crawford and many others.

SOUND: Action. Studios East and West. A Sound hit on Broadway in "White Shadows". "Mary Dugan" and "Nize Baby" coming. Many synchronizations.

SHORTS: Roach product the greatest. Plus sound. The M-G-M Movietone News soon!

PROMOTION: Leo the Lion. "Our Gang Contest", Hearst co-operation. Many stunts and services.

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Canadian Moving Picture DIGEST

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Editor and Managing Director

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Vol. 20, No. 17 TORONTO, CANADA August 25th, 1928

"So This Is London!"

No. 3

(Republished from a special article written by the Editor for the Kinematograph, London, England)

RAY LEWIS

AMERICA finds itself at present somewhat handicapped, first by a satiated public which has had its belly overloaded with a picture diet which furnished everything on the Entertainment Menu, from "soup to nuts;" and which now has decided, like King Solomon, that "All is vanity" and that there is "nothing new under the sun."

In America the Exhibitor-Producers have seized with avidity on the idea of "Talking Motion Pictures," because the high cost of running a show to meet competition of the "Roxy" type, is dwindling the profits, because Wall Street sees no bait for public picture money unless a novelty such as Talking Motion Pictures is introduced; and because producers need further financing badly.

In America as in England, the Moving Picture Financial Cow, has been milked dry; and Wall St. will not "loosen up," unless Wall St. controls the finance it advances, unless it can "bull" the market, but how can it when the public, once a bull, has been metamorphosed into a cow.

To "bull" the Motion Picture market in America is possible through the introduction of the Talking Motion Picture. Patents and inventions, give the Film shares the tone of an industrial, and Wall St., by the way, the narrow if not always straight way, controls the Talking Accessories.

Ever heard of Wall St., Throgmorten, or any other Financial Alley being magnanimous? Wall St., in control, is not concerned with the possibility, nor probability of the Talking Motion Picture fading out of the picture in two or three years, the finance will have been secured; and finance, public money is the Wall St. objective.

The Picture Giants of our Film Industry will be handed "the baby," may be left to do the entire "nursing," with the aid of the public.

England will find herein a new source for funds, note Photofilm's recently oversubscribed issue; and as long as the public's gambling appetite does not abate, they will nibble at every new film bait which is new, regardless of the fact that in England the majority of Motion Picture Producing Shares have depreciated, twenty-five, fifty, and even as much as eighty percent below their first quotation.

I am, therefore, expecting that there will be a great deal of enthusiasm among English producers in respect to Talking Motion Pictures, it furnishes a new treasury for funds; and perhaps the situation in England in respect to a monopoly on Talking Film Patents may not exist. This will mean that the English producers will again get finance. What will they do with it? What are they doing with what they have secured?

For years I have heard that England was handicapped in respect to her Film Production by the War. The War I am told gave America the Film advantage, making America the dominant factor in the Picture Industry of the world. I have heard that England was retarded in Film production by a lack of finance.

Now that the War is well over, and that it has not proved a handicap to Germany, which had much more to overcome than England, by way of living down that endearing term called, "The Enemy," what is England doing, through her production facilities to establish a British Film Industry?

Ray Lewis

(to be continued)

WHAT STORY DOES YOUR SCREEN TELL THE FOLKS ABOUT YOU?

Did you ever realize, as you stand in the back of your theatre while the show is going on, that what is being thrown on the screen is telling the patrons what kind of a man you are?

What you provide as entertainment for those who come to be entertained reflects YOU.

UNITED ARTISTS PICTURES, in addition to being Big Business Builders for any theatre---add Prestige to your investment and reflect You as the Best Showman in town.

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GLORIA SWANSON in
"Sadie Thompson"
"The Love of Sunya"

CORINNE GRIFFITH in
"The Garden of Eden"

CHARLIE CHAPLIN in
"The Circus" "The Gold Rush"

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS in
"The Gaucho"
"The Black Pirate"

D. W. GRIFFITH'S
"Drums of Love"

JOHN BARRYMORE in
"The Beloved Rogue"

Samuel Goldwyn Presents
RONALD COLMAN and
VILMA BANKY in
"The Magic Flame"
"The Night of Love"
"The Winning of Barbara Worth"

GILDA GRAY in
"The Devil Dancer"

HENRY KING'S
"Stella Dallas"

BUSTER KEATON in
"College" "The General"

DOLORES DEL RIO in
"Ramona" "Resurrection"

HERBERT BRENON'S
"Sorrell & Son"

"TWO ARABIAN KNIGHTS"
with William Boyd, Mary Astor
Louis Wolheim

DUNCAN SISTERS in
"Topsy and Eva"

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TORONTO THEATRES

UPTOWN — Manager, Nelson Shea — "Warming Up," with Richard Dix and good supporting cast. A Paramount picture that ought to please most Dix fans and everybody who likes baseball stories well done on the screen. Fred Neumeyer directed the picture which was written by Sam Mintz; it is a combination of comedy and romance, both of them pretty light and as shown at the Uptown without the sound accompaniment it is fair hot weather entertainment. Richard Dix plays the part of a small town boy who gets a chance to play on the Yanks champion team and of course he falls in love with the daughter of the owner — only he thinks she is simply a governess in the house and most of the comic situations depend upon this mistaken identity. Another player on the same team is also in love with the heroine and for a time seems to have things all his own way. When Dix sees his rival, who is rich in his own right placing a diamond ring on his sweetheart's finger while he himself is a long way from the top of the ladder, he turns sour and almost manages to lose the championship game for the Yankees. "All's well, that ends well" however and at the opportune moment the hero gets into the game, saves it for his team, and then seeks out his girl. Naturally he is dumbfounded to find that the supposed governess is the owner's daughter and the final close-up shows that love will and does find a way, always. Jean Arthur is a very sweet, pretty heroine; others in the cast are Claude King, Philo McCullough, Wade Boteler, Billy Kent Schaefer and other familiar screen players.

LOEW'S—Manager, Jules Bernstein —"Telling the World" — A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production that is one of the best newspaper screen classics that has ever been shown. The story is clever, the acting excellent and the production one of the best even from the ultra fine Metro-Goldwyn organization. Toronto movie fans ought to be particularly interested in this picture at Loew's because through a tie-up with The Evening Telegram, for publicity purposes, there are several local shots shown and incorporated into the picture. William Haines is a typically fresh son of wealthy parents who always "wants what he wants, when he wants it," and intends to get it. He is disowned by his father and becomes a cub reporter; falls in love with a chorus girl and goes to her rooms where he stays all night. Put out by the landlady in the morning the pair go to the reporter's lodgings and the young man is astonished to find that his sweetheart has hopes of marrying him. He starts out to the Doce, decides to buy a wedding ring and returns to find the love bird flown. She has accepted an offer to go to China and instead of taking a long looked for chance to go to the Paris office, her lover follows her to Shanghai to cover the revolution. The climax is reached in this city when the young American girl is falsely accused of murdering the governor of the province by the head of the military who has himself done the deed. Young America in the shape of William Haines comes nobly to the rescue; gets into the thick of the fray in time to send a wireless message to a naval station that an American girl is about to be executed in the morning, also scoops the world on the break for his paper and naturally wins promotion and his girl. The methods used in getting world events into the dailies as well as effecting a daring and sensational rescue are the best parts of this production. People unfamiliar with modern newspaper routine will be thrilled by the shots showing wireless, cables, telegraphic communication and finally the printing of the big dailies almost while events are actually transpiring. The love interest is strong throughout; the acting by Haines the sort of thing Metro has been featuring him in for some time; Anita Page is pretty, very attractive and winsome as the heroine. Others in the cast are Sojin, Eileen Percy, Frank Currier, Polly Moran, Bert Roach and William V. Mong. Sam Wood directed the picture and made an excellent job of it; from my viewpoint "Telling the World" is fine movie material, and ought to click at every box office if properly advertised.

SHEA'S HIPPODROME — J. C. Appel, Manager — "The Cop" — Pathe, with William Boyd, and capable cast. This is another police-underworld type of picture with many thrilling episodes and a hold-up scene that is extremely exciting and well done. William Boyd makes a fine example of ordinary everyday American brawn without too much brains, in his conception of the hero who is first watchman on a lonely bridge over the east river and then one of New York's finest. He becomes involved in a series of episodes that are almost his undoing when he first joins the police force but he manages to vindicate his honor with his superior officer and marry the girl he loves after convincing her of the error of her ways. There is a good deal of shooting and mad dashing of squads of police in trucks, on speed wagons, hand cars and motor cycles through New York streets and around slum districts; also a raid and a holdup in which a policeman is killed that seems most realistic. The direction of the picture is better than usual and if you like this type of movie which seems to be very popular now you will probably like "The Cop" very much. Elliot Clawson wrote the story, Donald Crisp admirably directed the picture and the other principals in the cast are Robert Armstrong, Jacqueline Logan and Alan Hale.

PANTAGES — Manager Fred Shafer — "Hot News," Paramount, with Bebe Daniels, Neil Hamilton, directed by Clarence Badger. "Hot News" is a splendid little comedy romance with the popular Paramount star in a characteristically peppy role that suits her down to the ground; the action throughout the picture is smooth, swift and quite convincing. Bebe Daniels is the daughter of the man who runs a news reel service and who has discharged his chief camera man, "Scoop" Morgan. Neil Hamilton plays this role and incidentally is the hero of the production; Miss Daniels in her anxiety to keep her father's business from suffering by competition with the other News Reel service to which Morgan has gone, tries to outwit the latter on every possible occasion. On account of her sex she has a lot of trouble in doing it, but after a bad start she manages to come out ahead of "Scoop" every time. She even climbs to the peak of the Statue of Liberty to get the first pictures of a foreign dirigible coming into New York and outwits Morgan up there. The climax is reached when she gets into a private garden party for a visiting Indian royalty and manages to photograph the Maharajah in spite of orders to the contrary. But she not only gets a photograph but a complete story in pictures of a plot to kill the Maharajah and steal his jewels. Naturally this scoop is only caried out by dint of great trouble and it involves being kidnapped with the hero on board a

(Continued on Page 11)

Arnold Tubman Comes To Toronto U. A. Office

A member of a prominent theatre family in Canada, Arnold Tubman, has been transferred from the Calgary to the Toronto, Ontario, office of the United Artists Film Corp., Limited, where he will be assistant to Haskell Masters, Canadian general manager for United Artists.

On his departure from Calgary, the exchange managers and exhibitors tendered Mr. Tubman a complimentary banquet when they presented him with a club bag, the presentation being made by Joe Huber, Fox branch manager. Mr. Tubman is a younger brother of Ray Tubman, manager of the Imperial and Regent Theatres, Ottawa.

Arlequin Theatre Closed Test Case Results in Fine

Drastic action was taken by the authorities at Quebec City, capital of the Province of Quebec, recently when the license of the Arlequin Theatre, a neighborhood house, was cancelled and theatre closed after the proprietor had pleaded guilty to the charge of permitting the admission of children under 16 years of age to the theatre in contravention of the new Provincial law.

Proceedings were instituted against this theatre by the Quebec Government as a test case. In addition to the cancellation of the license, a fine of $10 was imposed by Hon. Judge Lachance who presided at the hearing.

Merger Rumors Continue

Despite official denials, rumors persist that a deal for Hamilton United Theatres is being engineered by Famous Players Canadian Corporation. Some time ago it was reported Famous Players would make a cash offer for the common stock of Hamilton United, and now the story is being revamped into a share-for-share exchange.

J. M. Franklin Host To English School Children

Manager J. M. Franklin of B F. Keith's Theatre, Ottawa, was host to the 100 school boys and school girls of Great Britain, known as "The Youthful Ambassadors," at a theatre performance during their brief stay in the Canadian Capital. These young tourists will be guests at Keith or Orpheum theatres in all of the principal cities of the Dominion which they will visit on their present trip.

Zukor Pays $20,000,000 For Warners Vitaphone

Despite denials by both Adolph Zukor and Harry M. Warner, Famous Players Lasky are reported to have bought Warner-Vitaphone activities and to have paid $20,000,000 for it in the open market.

Conflicting play dates and consequent loss of business for both companies made the arrangement necessary.

BURLESQUE, BUT NO MOVIES FOR CHILDREN

A child under 16 years of age may attend a burlesque show, even on Sunday, in Montreal, Quebec, but the same child is barred from entering a theatre where one or more reels of moving pictures are being presented whether he is accompanied by an adult or not.

This was brought out at Montreal in connection with the re-opening of the Gayety Burlesque Theatre in that city on August 19 for the season. This was one of the points to the situattion in the Province of Quebec which has been caused by the enforcement of the new law prohibiting the admission of children to moving picture theatres anywhere anytime. The point was given prominence in the newspapers by the exhibitors association of Montreal.

Vice-Royalty Attend "The Cossacks" at Regent

Their Excellencies, Viscount Willingdon, Governor-General of Canada, and Viscountess Willingdon, accompanied by a party from Rideau Hall, the vice-regal residence at Ottawa, attended a matinee performance at the Regent Theatre, Ottawa, of "The Cossacks," starring John Gilbert and Renee Adoree. It is very seldom that their Excellencies can slip away from official duties to attend the theatre. Manager Ray Tubman received the distinguished patrons at the theatre.

Announcing the New Model H Motiograph DeLuxe Projector

Entirely New Projector Principle.
Front Shutter entirely eliminated.
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Canada's Leading Theatre Supply House

Digest Close-Ups and News Flashes

Eva Le Gallienne, talented actress, daughter of the poet, Richard Le Gallienne, has signed with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for sound films. Miss Le Gallienne is the founder and director of the Civic Repertory Theatre in N. Y., and was seen in Toronto with Joseph Schildkraut in "Liliom."

Ziegfeld-Zukor agree on change of contract. "Glorifying American Girl" to be Paramount ace. Sound Musical Comedy for motion pictures, original contract called only for "silent drama."

Col. Alan C. Prince and Dr. J. O. Reamme give reason for not accepting Famous Players' offer to buy Capitol Theatre property in Windsor, Ont. Col. Prince says the property is valuable and aside from the theatrical situation, it is an important real estate proposition.

Joseph Schenck has returned from a five weeks' business and pleasure trip to Europe. He has sold seven United Artists pictures to the Russian Government and predicts that sound pictures will be out possibly in six months.

"Auld Lang Syne" being made at Cricklwood Studio, London, promises to give the public full value for their money according to Sir Harry Lauder, who says "he is on the screen most of the time."

A majority of New York's independent theatres are organizing under the leadership of B. S. Moss to effect a merger in an effort to buck the "Big 3" combine.

Carl Laemmle comes out with a safe and sane suggestion that people refrain from getting hysteria on the subject of "Talkies." "There will be plenty of room for both synchronized and silent drama," says Universal's head. "All the sound in the world will not take the place of the four cardinal principles of the Motion Picture business, story, direction, action and photography."

Richard A. Rowland, general and production manager of First National has definitely announced his resignation from that company with which he has been associated since May, 1921.

Paul Bern is taking full charge of production at the Pathe Studios following De Mille's resignation.

"The Wrecker" and "Balaclava," are two English pictures to be produced with sound effects.

Television for Films? Dr. Karolus of Lupsiz, a University professor, is planning a demonstration at Berlin by which he hopes to prove the possibility of transmitting Motion Pictures by cable or radio.

Daniel Frohman, veteran theatrical producer says the low price of movie admission guarantees the success of sound pictures but he also says they will never drive out the legitimate stage.

Eugene Zukor, son of the Motion Picture magnate, was in Toronto recently for the golf tournament over the Rosedale course. Mr. Zukor came here for rest and change but he was most affable and agreeable in talking to Augustus Bridle, the Daily Star's critic, on the subject of synchronized and talking pictures. Mr. Eugene Zukor has been in Toronto before and likes the city very much.

M. P. Wetherell, old time vaudeville and theatre manager addressed the Kamloops Rotary Club recently and gave an interesting talk on the past, present and future of his profession.

King Vidor, one of Metro's best directors is going to make an all colored photoplay for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer based on personal experiences, the director had while living in Texas. The picture will be made in the South on actual locations and several prominent actors are being mentioned for the all-negro cast. Negro spirituals will be used extensively in the sound arrangement.

$4,000 was spent to give the Rialto Theatre, Edmonton, a new and up-to-the-minute ventilating system.

"Talkies" are certainly causing much talk in Hollywood, actors and actresses are busy having voice tests and the results are sometimes more than interesting. Usually it is "silent drama" when the test fails as contract and jobs are getting scarcer every day for some people.

A despatch from Chicago states that Film companies are the largest customers of air express and far exceed the business done by banks, bond houses and department stores.

Act Is Supended Until Test Made

Stop Prosecutions For Admitting Children

The Quebec Moving Picture Act, a law which prohibits the admittance of children to moving picture theatres under 16 years of age in this province, has been suspended temporarily, according to a judgment rendered by Mr. Justice Weir in Superior Court, here to-day. The legality of the Act has been questioned by local theatre owners and until its constitutionality has been decided before the courts, proprietors of moving picture houses will be allowed to permit minor children entry into their theatres, the judgment decrees. A test case of the law has been prepared and will be heard this Fall.

The suspension of the law was brought about to-day when eight additional writs of prohibition to restrain the Recorder's Court from hearing charges against the managers of moving picture theatres for admitting minor children, were granted by the judge. The total number of theatres in which the exclusion clause against children is suspended until the constitutionality of the law is tested now stands at ten.

Recorders Restrained.

The judgment specifically states that the recorders are restrained from hearing present charges against the various theatre managers and from hearing any subsequent charges that may be laid in the same sense until the constitutionality of the law was definitely decided. This order enables the theatres concerned to open their doors to children without fear of new charges.

As regards theatres against whom no charges have yet been laid and consequently no writs of prohibition have been granted, no provision has been made.

No appearance was made by the Attorney-General's Department when the petitions were presented. Following a lengthy argument on a similar petition yesterday, it was decided that no contestation would be made on the part of the Attorney-General at the petition stage of any subsequent case of the same kind.—Mail & Empire.

KINGSTON EXTENDS DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

Mayor Crag of Kingston, Ontario, has decided to extend Daylight Saving in that city from September 3 to September 29 to conform with other cities of Eastern Canada, in spite of the custom of the past 10 to return to normal time on the Canadian Labor Day.

GAUMONT BRITISH CORP

Meeting the Demand of the Canad

NOW E

24 Productions that Repre

Carry On! Naval story by Dinah Shurey
Britannia Film

The Lodger Mystery Play starring Ivor Novello
Gainsborough Film

Shooting Stars Story of studio intrigue by Anthony Asquith
British Instructional Films

Mlle. Parley-Voo Sequel to Mlle. from Armentieres
Gaumont-British Film

Hindle Wakes Stanley Hough'on's Famous Play
Gaumont-British Fi'm

The Glad Eye Farce featuring Estelle Brody
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ry of the modern Dance
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One of the Best Based on the play by Seymour Hicks and George Edwardes
Gainsborough Film

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Gaumont-British Film

Rough Seas Drama
Gaumont-British Film

Triumph of the Rat Paris Underworld Story. Featuring Ivor Novello
Gainsborough Film

Pleasure Garden Drama adapted from the book by Oliver Sandys
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3 Canadian Pictures
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PREMIER KING INVITED M.P.T.O.A. CONVENTION

Mary Pickford Sorry Cannot Visit Toronto

President J. C. Brady of the Canadian Division of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America has wired to the National Office in New York that an invitation had been sent to Premier William Lyon Mackenzie King and that the head of the Canadian Government would in all probability be the guest of the Theatre Owners at the Ninth Annual Convention, which will be held in Toronto in October.

N. L. NATHANSON NOT TO BUILD IN QUE.

The Quebec Chronicle Telegraph carries a denial by N. L. Nathanson, managing director of Famous Players Canadian Corp that his company has entered into any arrangements to build a $1,000,000 theatre on St. John St., Quebec.

Mr. Nathanson refused to commit himself about future building operations in Quebec but stated explicitly that he had and would have no affiliations with a Mr. Tourkes of that city.

The wire was in response to a news article published previously in good faith.

KINEMATOGRAPH PRINTS ARTICLES BY RAY LEWIS

Digest readers will be interested to know that the article in the issue of August 18th, called "A British Film Industry," sent from London by Miss Lewis was presented to the English public through the columns of the Kinematograph Weekly.

KENNEDY BREAKS WITH F. N. OVER POLICY

Film Daily prints the following:

"Prior to his departure Friday night on the Ile de France for a five weeks' vacation abroad, Joseph P. Kennedy, who last week signed a five year contract to become business advisor for First National, broke with that company. Withdrawal of Kennedy from the firm is attributed to differences over policies of management. It is understood that Kennedy could not agree with certain modes of procedure recommended and rather than insist upon adoption of his own plans, voluntarily served notice of his intentions to withdraw from the organization."

Famous Players Offer To Buy Windsor Theatre

Famous Players Canadian Corporation, Ltd., have made an offer to purchase the business and assets of Windsor Capital Theatre, Ltd., for $250,000 cash. Cash deposit of $25,000 has already been made to bind the deal in the event of the Windsor Capital shareholders accepting, the balance, $225,000 will be paid December 1, 1928, and which date the theatre will be taken over.

The president of Windsor Capital Theatre called a special general meeting of the shareholders August 13 to give their approval to the acceptance of this offer.

In a letter accompanying the notice the president says, in the opinion of the board, if the offer is accepted it will mean payment of about $50 a share to the preferred stockholders only. If not accepted the situaton will remain that the company can, under its present lease, probably pay for the year1928, 4 per cent. and for the next four years 5 per cent. At the end of that period the present company would have the theatre on its hands and in the opinion of the board this is a situation which would not be beneficial to the shareholders.

The directors advise the acceptance of the offer.

—Mail & Empire, Aug. 3.

Emil Jannings is scheduled for a big picture on the emigrant theme by Paramount soon. He is to work in the East, and "Ellis Island" will be the title of the production.

Ministers Are Given Taste of "Reel Life"

Hon. George S. Henry in Safety Film

Brief contact with "reel life," in place of customary cold officialdom, was enjoyed recently by Acting Premier George S. Henry, when he rendered one of the stellar roles in a safety-first film produced at Whitby, Ont. Associated with Hon. Mr. Henry in the distinguished cast was A. E. Warren, district superintendent of the National Railways.

The incident served to widen the connection which the Ontario Cabinet had already made with the motion picture industry. Only lately Hon. Dr. Monteith, Provincial Treasurer, returned from a visit to Hollywood, where, although he was not starred in any production, he was given a close insight into the technique of the motion pcture industry.

Roy McDonald, Ottawa On Holiday

Roy A. McDonald, assistant manager of B. F. Keith's Theatre, Ottawa, has had quite a vacation tour. He visited relatives at Halifax, N.S., and then made stops of several days at New York, Philadelphia and Atlantic City.

LARRY SEMON HAS BREAKDOWN

Larry Semon, the comedian, returning to Los Angeles after finishing a vaudeville tour, took a nervous breakdown.

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TORONTO THEATRES

(Continued from Page 5)

steam yacht bound for Rio Janeiro. Action, comedy, romance and excellent photography make this Paramount picture well worth seeing at any time of the year. It is entertaining and very amusing in spots. Bebe Daniels carries the picture pretty much on her own shoulders but Neil Hamilton is a thoroughly satisfactory foil and hero.

TIVOLI — Manager Tom Daley — "Mademoiselle From Armentieres," British picture released by Regal, with Estelle Brody, John Stuart, Gabriel Rosca and a capable cast. Another British war picture with a title that ought to go a long way towards selling the picture to the public. At the Tivoli last week, "Mademoiselle" is presented with a musical setting by Romanelli, featuring Jack Arthur's theme song composed by Mr. Arthur and Horace Lapp. Rance Quarrington, in conjunction with the orchestra, puts the song across and the Romanelli arrangement of typical English and patriotic airs adds a great deal to the showing. Estelle Brody is an attractive and sufficiently alluring heroine even for the more or less mythical "Mademoiselle From Armentieres"of war fame. The production made by Gaumont, one of the best English organizations has more plot than one expects to find in war pictures, a good deal of comedy and just the right romantic flavor. Susceptible and lonesome British Tommies behind the lines are more than anxious for a few moments respite and the little tavern with its hostess and her pretty niece are welcome after the wet and mud of the trenches. Rival suitors for the hand of the pretty server, provide most of the comedy, and the billets where the troops are lodged provide a decided contrast to the warm parlor in the cozy French tavern. The plot becomes interesting when it is discovered that a German spy, in the person of a mysterious French peasant, becomes infatuated with Mademoiselle, and through her the British headquarters staff is able to put over a big coup when they supply false information to the Germans, only to attain their objective later in a decisive engagement. More important than the story is the fact that Canadians are going to have an opportunity of seeing real British soldiers making a picture on historic soil with absolutely correct atmosphere, and equipment; well acted and directed. Advertised as a "British Big Parade" "Mademoiselle From Armentieres" will undoubtedly provide a great deal of entertainment for those who like war pictures and are anxious to see an English version of life behind the lines during those terrible days when official communiques stressed long casualty lists from "somewhere in France." It is a touching, at times pathetic picture with light moments and a good deal of comedy lurking beneath the drama that is ever present. Story is by Victor Saville — the picture is directed by Maurice Elvey in conjunction with Saville. Every Canadian exhibitor will be anxious to show "Mademoiselle" and to give their patrons the British war picture they have heard so much about.

DAHN PULLS CLEVER EXPLOITATION STUNT

Manager Harry Dahn of the Capitol Theatre, Montreal, grabbed an excellent chance for special exploitation on the occasion of the visit to the Canadian metropolis of the Australian warship, the "Australia" recently. This was the opening of "White Shadows in the South Seas" and Mr. Dahn had all possible officers and crew parade to the theatre with their band as guests at the matinee performance. A special stage presentation was "Under Southern Skies" and Australian atmosphere was injected into the whole show.

Cecil B. De Mille and his whole personal staff including several stars and featured players have gone over to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Tubman Visits Chicago Returns with Ideas

Ray Tubman, manager of the Regent and Imperial Theatres, Ottawa, recently returned to the Canadian Capital after a visit from Chicago, Ill., where he inspected the big theatres in view of the election of the new Famous Players house in Ottawa during the coming year.

CHAS. J. QUICK GOES TO REGINA

Charles J. Quick was assistant superintendant of the Ontario Motion Picture Bureau, formerly at Trenton, Ont., now located at Toronto.

He has been 11 years in the Motion Picture field and helped to make "Carry On Sergeant," the new picture produced by Bruce Bairnsfather. Mr. Quick also assisted in making the first Fox Canadian News Reel.

Thomas Meighan has two interesting performances to his credit; recently his work in Rex Beach's "The Mating Call," is worthy of Tom's halcyon days and "The Racket" gives him the best opportunity he has had in years. Louis Wolheim has a large part in the success of the entire production but one can readily believe that Mr Meighan meant what he said a short time ago when he announced that if producers didn't give him a regular story and something to do he would, like Gene Tunney, take off his gloves and retire.

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"The Man Who Laughs"

Directed by Paul Leni

Reviewed by R. E. Sherwood

McCall's Magazine carries the following interesting review by Robert E. Sherwood, of what should be an extraordinarily interesting release:

Victor Hugo probably failed to appreciate his own extraordinary talents as movie scenario writer; in fact, there is every reason to believe that he composed "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," "Les Miserables" and "The Man Who Laughs" with no thought whatever for the revenue to be derived from the screen rights to those stalwart works. Mr. Hugo had no way of knowing, when he started to write "The Man Who Laughs," that there was living in Laupheim, Germany, a two-year-old infant named Carl Laemmle who was destined to make the name of Victor Hugo famous among the film fans of the world.

Mr. Laemmle has now produced three Hugo stories on the screen. He has done all of them on a grandly spectacular scale, and has converted them into wage-earners of impressive proportions. The latest "The Man Who Laughs" is, to my mind, the best of the three; certainly, it is considerably closer to Hugo's original idea than were either "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" or "Les Miserables."

"The Man Who Laughs" is a weird conception. It tells the tragic tale of a British nobleman of the Jacobite era who, in his youth, had been kidnapped by political bandits and subjected to brutal mutilation. His face was so carved that he was doomed to wear, forever, a gruesome, ghastly smile.

Lost and abandoned, the poor little boy joined an itinerant circus; he adopted the name of "Gwynplaine" and achieved substantial celebrity as a clown. All that he needed to do to send his audiences into convulsions of merriment was to show them his terrible, perpetually grinning face.

"Gwynplaine" was loved by two women — a blind girl of the circus who, mercifully, could not see the mutilation of his countenance, and a decadent duchess who derived an unholy thrill from the ineradicable grin. The love of the blind girl, of course, was beautifully pure, whereas that of the duchess was distinctly otherwise.

The inestimably difficult role of "Gwynplaine" is superbly played by a German actor, Conrad Veidt, who has been seen before in America as the somnambulist in "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari." To Mr. Veidt, and to the director, Paul Leni, goes most of the credit for the extraordinary merit of "The Man Who Laughs."

Mr. Leni, be it said, has directed "The Man Who Laughs" with the upper part of his intelligence. His tremendous mob scenes and his more intimate close-ups are admirably contrived and his composition and lighting are at all times unusual and effective.

The cast is a good one, with Olga Baclanova, Stuart Holmes, Josephine Crowell and Cesare Gravina.

Also recommended: "The Tempest," "The End of St. Petersburg," "Speedy," "Steamboat Bill Jr.," "Sunrise," "The Last Command," "Simba" and "Wings."

World Wide Pictures Inc. At New York

New American Distribution for Foreign Films

Word has been received from New York of the completion of a deal by which World Wide Pictures Inc., will handle American distribution of all foreign films.

The following communication comes from C. L. Yearsley:

A new source of feature film supply for American and Canadian theatres and a far reaching change in international motion picture commerce are promised as a result of the formation of World Wide Pictures, Inc., following lengthy negotiations on both sides of the Atlantic. The new company's officials are J. Douglas Watson, President; J. D. Williams, Vice-President; John Maxwell and E. W. Hammons, Directors. Mr. Watson is chairman of United Motion Picture Producers, Ltd., of London; John Maxwell is internationally known as the head of British International Pictures, Ltd.

For the first time in the history of the industry adequate national American distribution of imported productions direct to theatres through a channel devoted exclusively to their sale and exploitation is assured. All overseas product regardless of country of origin will be handled.

"Our company is internationally financed, one of London's strongest groups have co-operated with a powerful American Banking institution to obtain the capital," states J. D. Williams.

"All 'World Wide Pictures' will be sold on merit on an individual basis. We propose to give all countries' producers an equal chance. World Wide Pictures Inc., our importing and distributing concern, will function as the sales and exploitation agency. A national sales staff in process of formation.

"Educational Film Exchanges will physically distribute our product. This will in no wise interfere with that Company's short subject business.

"While this new source of film supply will most benefit American exhibitors, the proposition as a whole is certain to favorably affect the entire world industry. We will bring novelty and variety of entertainment from the lands of romance overseas. We will provide an open market for producers of other countries so they can no longer complain that their pictures have no chance in America. Entertainment value will hereafter gauge the salability of imported pictures just as it does American films. European countries are energetically developing their own film industries for national reasons. Some fine, novel pictures are sure to result. We shall select only those which promise profit to American theatres. We expect to offer thirty to fifty imported pictures a year from the outset."

Announcement of initial product will be made within a few days. Selling for Fall exhibition will follow trade showing of the first group of pictures.

"Take a Chance Week" At Ottawa Vaudeville House

The first time that a "Take a Chance Week" had been conducted at a vaudeville theatre in Ottawa, Ont., was recently when Manager J. M. Franklin put across this form of stunt for B. F. Keith's Theatre, with excellent result. The only clue to any part of the bill, films or vaudeville, was the picture of Milton Sills on the billboards—without title. The feature was "Hawk of the Hills."

Jessie L. Lasky spoke recently about the advantages and disadvantages of "talkies."

George K. Arthur, the little Scotchman, whom Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer costars with Karl Dane in comedy productions, returned last week aboard the Mauretania from Europe. The comedian has been abroad on a visit to Scotland.

"The Upstart Gentleman," an original screen story by John Monk Saunders, is announced by Paramount as the next Richard Arlen-Nancy Carroll co-featuring vehicle to follow the untitled stage story now in production.

Gertrude Messenger has been selected to play opposite Arthur Lake in the "Horace in Hollywood" series of comedies being produced by Universal under the direction of Edward Luddy. As its title suggests, the series relates the adventures of a youth who becomes screen struck and goes to Hollywood.

Richard Dix and Florence Vidor will be seen together in a picture following the completion of "Redskin," Dix' next vehicle, it is announced at the Paramount studio. "Unconquered" is the title of the Dix-Vidor picture. Malcolm St. Clair has the directorial assignment.

Gaumont British Establish Canadian Distribution Through Canadian Universal

Edward Auger, Managing Director of Canadian Unit.

THE GAUMONT-BRITISH CORPORATION OF CANADA, LTD., has received a Canadian Federal Charter which empowers the Company to produce, distribute, and present motion pictures throughout the Dominion, as well as buying or building theatres. The new Company is closely affiliated with powerful British motion picture interests, and this would seem to mark their entry on the American Continent in the various activities of the motion picture industry.

Lieutenant-Colonel A. C. Bromhead, C.B.E., chairman of the Board of Directors of the Gaumont-British Picture Corporation, Ltd., London, England, is president of the new Company. Colonel Bromhead's many years of experience in the motion picture industry places the leadership of the Company in experienced and capable hands, as it was through his efforts that the combination of several of the largest producers and distributors of motion picture films in Great Britain were combined with over two hundred motion picture theatres to form the Gaumont-British Picture Corporation, Ltd.

Arthur A. Lee, vice-president of the new Canadian Company, began his motion picture career in Canada by being the first man to road show a picture from coast to coast; this picture being Nat Goodwin in "Oliver Twist." Later Mr. Lee was in charge of the Special Feature Department of the General Film Company with headquarters in Toronto. He then came to the United States in an executive position with the Gaumont Company of America, and is today president of the Amer-Anglo Corporation with headquarters in New York City.

Reginald C. Bromhead, F.C.A., treasurer of the new Company, is also Managing Director of the Gaumont-British Picture Corporation, Ltd., with headquarters in London, England, where he has been actively associated with the various interests of the Gaumont Company for many years.

The Managing Director of the Gaumont-British Corporation of Canada, Ltd., is Edward Auger, one of the best known motion picture executives in the Dominion. Mr. Auger spent his early boyhood in Montreal and started his film experienced by opening theatres and distributing exchanges throughout the Dominion. In later years he was General Manager of Pathe, Inc., and for this Company opened exchanges throughout the United States and Canada; he was also General Sales Manager for Vitagraph which included sales supervision of the Canadian offices. After this association he was appointed Managing Director of Continental Europe for the Fox Film Corporation with headquarters in Paris.

The Gaumont-British Corporation of Canada, Ltd., will have its head office at Toronto and branch offices will be opened at St. John, Montreal, Winnipeg, Calgary, and Vancouver. The Company will release from 24 to 30 feature pictures each year. These releases will not only be pictures produced by the Gaumont Company, Ltd. of England, but will be chosen from the best British pictures that are produced. Mr. Auger, the Managing Director, and William F. Barrett, Secretary of the Corporation, who is well known throughout the Motion Picture Industry of the Dominion due to his association with the General Film Company, Vitagraph, Inc., and Fox Film Corporation, are now at headquarters in Toronto arranging the many details necessary to starting a Corporation of this size.

Physical distribution has been arranged through the Canadian Universal Exchanges.

Some of the former British releases of the Gaumont British in Canada are "Roses of Picardy" which was a box-office success, "The Flight Commander," "Second To None," "The Battles of the Coronel & Falkland," "The Passionate Adventure" and "Mlle From Armentieres," which is playing the Tivoli, Toronto, at this present date.

These various pictures have been released by Regal Films, Famous Lasky, FBO, Educational, etc., in Canada.

NICK SCHENCK REAL "DADDY"

Smiling Nick Schenck had on the greatest grin that has ever yet adorned his face, when Mr. Stork through the courtesy of Mrs. Nicholas Schenck placed a nine pound Schenck baby in the arms of her daddy.

Just at that particular moment some one came into Nicholas' office with a big theatre proposition, but Nicholas was heard to say, "Go away, I've got the biggest proposition in my arms right now."

Congratulations and best wishes, the first should be a girl!

"Dawn" Opens Big Dominion Theatre, Vancouver

"Dawn" opened at the Dominion Theatre Vancouver, and registered such an emphatic success, that its engagement was extended. Reports from the box-office indicate that the first big start-off was only a forerunner of the business which the picture is going to do. "Dawn" opened at the Coliseum, Victoria, Sat. Aug. 18th.

The picture has now been passed in five provinces in the Dominion: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia.

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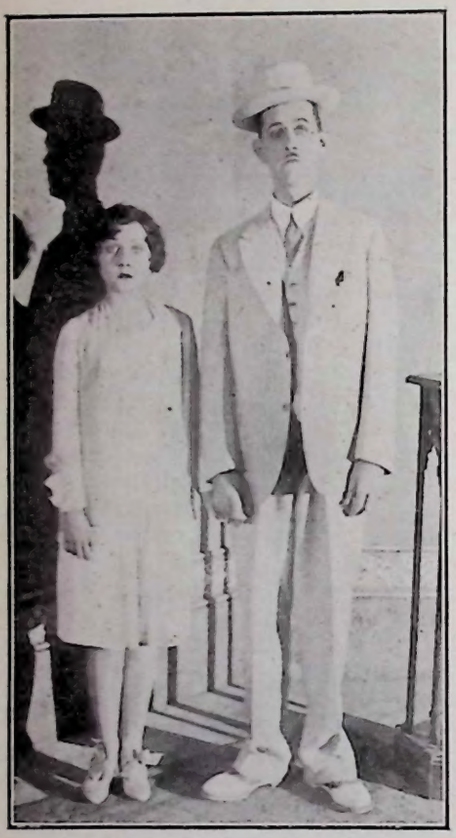
Round About the Studios



Charley Chase, Hal Roach comedy star, and his new leading lady, Mary Byron. These comedies are released by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

Preparations are under way at Universal City for the production on a large scale of a talking and musical motion picture, "The Minstrel Show." This story was written by Norman L. Sper and George R. Rogan and had for its inspiration the career of Banks Winter, one of the oldest living minstrel men and composer of the song, "White Wings."

As a lobby ballyhoo during the run of Pathe's Rod La Rocque starring vehicle "Hold 'Em Yale," the Hill Street Theatre in Los Angeles used a dummy with giant head and rigged it up in the latest football togs. A liberal display of football attire dressed the lobby.

Following the completion of "Growing Pains," "The Ol' Gray Hoss" and "School Begins," all for 1928-29 release, "Our Gang" is coming along merrily with its next Hal Roach Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer offering, as yet untitled. Anthony Mack is directing, under the personal supervision of Robert F. McGowan. The story has much color, inasmuch as Farina is being featured.

"Queen Kelly" and not "The Swamp" will be the title of the next Gloria Swanson picture for United Artists. This is the story written by Erich Von Stroheim for his own direction.

Tully Marshall, veteran character actor, has been added to the cast of "Redskin," Richard Dix' next Paramount picture. Marshall and Louise Brooks are the only supporting players as yet selected. Victor Schertzinger will direct. Washington authorities have promised the full co-operation of the Department of Indian Affairs.

Frank Rice and Clarence Gilbert, character players, have been added to the cast of "Humming Wires," a Metro-Goldwyn-Myer starring vehicle for Tim McCoy. This romance of the early telegraph will be directed by John Waters with Dorothy Sebastian in the leading feminine role.

Ernst Lubitsch, director of John Barrymore, Mary Pickford, Emil Jannings and Pola Negri in various films, has selected an extra girl named Mona Rico to play the second female lead opposite John Barrymore in his next United Artists picture. Camilla Horn is leading lady.

Alf Goulding has been engaged by Tiffany-Stahl to supervise the "gag" work on "The Floating College" starring Sally O'Neill nd Buster Collier and being directed by George Crone. Mr. Goulding is responsible for many of the gags in the Harold Lloyd and Harry Langdon comedies.

Lawrence Gray, Claire Windsor, Roy D'Arcy and Jed Prouty are playing the principal roles in the Tiffany-Stahl production "The Family Row" now being directed by James Flood.

"Dinner Time," the Pathe Aesop Film Fable that holds the distinction of being the world's first animated cartoon subject in sound, is currently being seen and heard at the Mark Strand Theatre in New York.

Geta Grenstadt, Margaret Lee and Eddy Boland have been added to the cast of "Erik the Great," the James Creelman story featuring Conrad Veidt and Mary Philbin under the direction of Paul Fejos.

Word has just been received from the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studios that Lewis Stone has signed a long term contract. He now is playing with John Gilbert and Greta Garbo in Michael Arlen's, "A Woman of Affairs," directed by Clarence Brown.

"His Private Life," a screen original by Ernest Vajda, has finally been selected by Paramount as Adolphe Menjou's next vehicle. His bride, Kathryn Carver, will have the feminine lead. She was Menjou's leading woman in "Service for Ladies" and also in "Serenade." Frank Tuttle will direct.

Paul Burger, assistant to Al Lichtman, United Artists' sales head, is back in New York after a flying ten days trip through Canada. Mr. Burger travelled in the interest of the eighteen new pictures which United Artists is releasing.

Gwen Lee, who has appeared with Norma Shearer in all of her Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer starring productions since "Ladies of the Night," and who just recently staged some amusing comedy with the star in "The Actress," again has been cast for a role with Miss Shearer in "The Little Angel," an adaptation by Carey Wilson of a story by Leroy Scott, which Sam Wood will direct.

Hector V. Sarno and DeWitt Jennings have been cast by director Joseph Henaberry in Reginald Denny's first talking picture, "Red Hot Speed," now in production at Universal City.

Herman J. Mankiewicz has been assigned by Paramount to title "Take Me Home," the Bebe Daniels' stage picture now being completed at the Hollywood studios.

Sydney Bracy, who recently appeared with Buster Keaton in "The Cameraman," and with Marion Davies in "Show People," has been assigned to play Luke, the comedy relief character in Tim McCoy's forthcoming starring picture, "Sioux Blood," which follows "Humming Wires" on the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production schedule.

"Music hath charm," according to Gwen Lee and "Flash," both Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer players appearing in "Shadows of the Night."

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